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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/574,201	03/31/2006	Hiroyuki Sugawara	1034509-000002	8956
21839	7590	05/29/2008		
BUCHANAN, INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC			EXAMINER	
POST OFFICE BOX 1404			MARCETICH, ADAM M	
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1404				
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3761	
NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE			
05/29/2008	ELECTRONIC			

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

ADIPFDD@bipc.com

Advisory Action Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief	Application No. 10/574,201 Examiner Adam Marcketich	Applicant(s) SUGAWARA, HIROYUKI Art Unit 3761
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–The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address –

THE REPLY FILED **25 April 2008** FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

1. The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:

a) The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
 b) The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.

Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

NOTICE OF APPEAL

2. The Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).

AMENDMENTS

3. The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because

(a) They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
 (b) They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);
 (c) They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
 (d) They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: See Continuation Sheet. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).

4. The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).

5. Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.
 6. Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).

7. For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) will not be entered, or b) will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.
 The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:
 Claim(s) allowed: _____.
 Claim(s) objected to: _____.
 Claim(s) rejected: 1-18, 20, 21 and 26-33.
 Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____.

AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE

8. The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will not be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).

9. The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome all rejections under appeal and/or appellant fail to provide a showing a good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).

10. The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER

11. The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:
See Continuation Sheet.

12. Note the attached *Information Disclosure Statement(s)*. (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s). _____

13. Other: _____.

/Tatyana Zalukaeva/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3761

/Adam Marcketich/
Examiner, Art Unit 3761

Continuation of 3. NOTE: The amended claims filed 25 April 2008 are not being entered since they would require further search and consideration.

Adding the limitations of "... and to which a bag is not connected" as appearing in the proposed amended claims 3, 4 and 20 would change the scope of the claims, since a negative limitation is being added.

Also, adding the limitation of "...cutting either said first tube or said third tube so that either said first tube or said third tube comprises first and second cut ends" as appearing in the proposed amended claims 3 and 4 would broaden the scope of the claims by adding an alternative.

Continuation of 11. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: Response to arguments

Applicant's arguments 25 April 2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant asserts that Johnson fails to disclose the second tube as claimed, such that both ends of the second tube are connected to the inlet and outlet and to which a bag is not connected. Examiner notes that the proposed amendments to claims 3, 4 and 20 are not being entered as discussed above, and that the claims as previously submitted are anticipated or obvious in view of Johnson, Spencer and Fell. The limitation of "... and to which a bag is not connected" is not being considered since it would change the scope of the claims.

Applicant asserts that Johnson's disclosure of tubing 68, which is relied upon to show the first tube as claimed, appears in an alternative embodiment separate from the embodiment relied to show other features. Applicant requests clarification of the use of tubing 68 from Fig. 6 of Johnson to show the first tube as claimed. It is the Examiner's position that connection assembly 48 (col. 6, lines 51-60, especially lines 51-53 and Fig. 4) corresponds to elements 66a, 66b and tubing 68 as depicted in Fig. 6. Therefore, the modification of tubing 68 is consistent with the rest of Johnson's disclosure.